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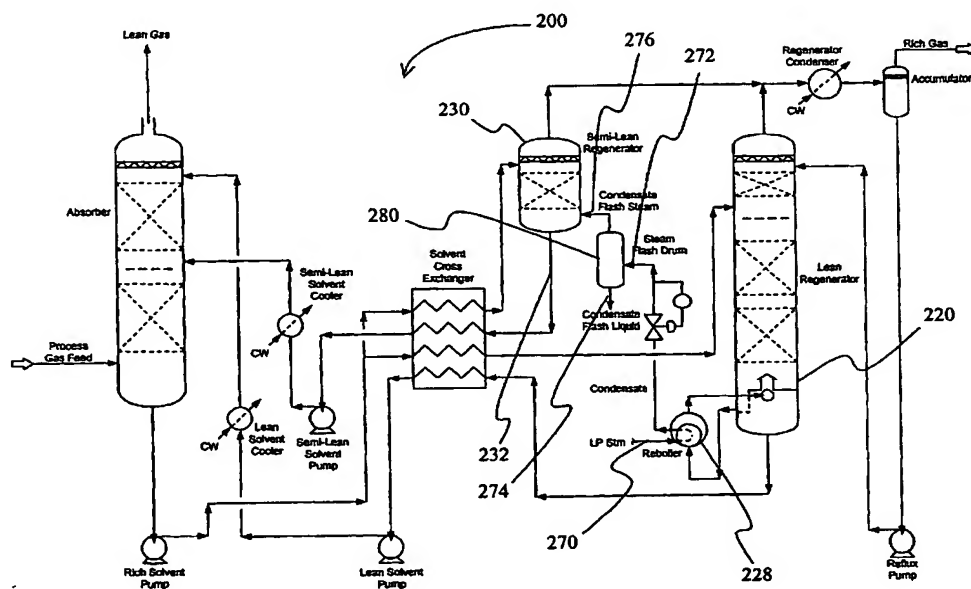
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVED SPLIT FLOW PROCESS AND APPARATUS



(S7) Abstract: An acid gas removal plant (100) includes an absorber (110) that provides a rich solvent (106) to two regenerators (120, 130) that independently generate a lean (122) and a semi-lean solvent (132), wherein the semi-lean solvent (132) is produced in one (130) of the regenerators using heat (140) and/or steam (276) derived from the other regenerator (120). Further heat integration is particularly contemplated with power plants in which the power plant provides high-level heat to the acid gas removal plant and wherein the power plant receives low-level heat from the acid gas removal plant.

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European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/21194

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B01D 53/14

US CL : 96/242; 95/168,181,183,235,236; 423/228,229

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 96/242,234; 95/168,181,183,235,236,160,161,162,163,165,166,167,169; 423/228,229

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONEElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
NONE**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,146,569 A (GIAMMARCO et al.) 27 March 1979, Fig. 5, col. 7 line 40-col. line 25.	1,3,6-8,10
A	US 2,437,288 A (ANDERSON) 09 March 1948.	1-20
A	US 3,962,404 A (GIAMMARCO et al.) 08 June 1976.	1-20
A	US 4,073,863 A (GIAMMARCO et al.) 14 February 1978.	1-20
A	US 4,248,608 A (GIAMMARCO et al.) 03 February 1981.	1-20



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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 November 2003 (18.11.2003)

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